

Cero was the K-9 partner of Deputy William R. Niemi. The loyal German shepherd was born November 3, 1997, in Germany, and had received his Ohio Peace Officer Training and North American Work Dog Association certification in December 1999. Since that time, he had worked diligently for the K-9 unit at the sheriff's department, often assisting with felony apprehensions and drug arrests.

Mr. Speaker, the death of K-9 Cero has deeply touched folks throughout Northeast Ohio, and the grieving extends beyond his partner, his partner's family, and the sheriff's department. Many people were moved by the heroic sacrifice of this dog, and folks are left to wonder how anyone could shoot and kill a human being and then a police dog in the blink of an eye. The shooting deaths of Walter Olson and K-9 Cero have plunged the community of Jefferson into a period of collective mourning.

Mr. Speaker, Cero will be laid to rest tomorrow with full police honors, and officers and police K-9 units from throughout Ohio are expected to attend the service. Cero is the first police dog in Northeast Ohio to die in the line of duty in more than 20 years. I have asked that a United States flag be flown over the Capitol in honor of Cero Niemi, his partner, Deputy William Niemi, and the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Speaker, K-9 Cero is credited with saving the lives of at least two officers, and possibly more on this one violent morning. He died like any other officer in the line of duty; trying to make our streets and communities safe. K-9 Cero's duty and sacrifice are worthy of recognition, and I extend my sympathies to Deputy Niemi; his wife, Julie; their children, Heather, Brittany and Jonathan; and Cero's K-9 companion, Abby.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter into the RECORD a poem in Cero's memory. It is by an anonymous author and captures the bond between officers and their K-9 partners.

GUARDIANS OF THE NIGHT

Trust in me my friend for I am your comrade. I will protect you with my last breath. When all others have left you and the loneliness of the night closes in, I will be at your side.

Together we will conquer all obstacles, and search out those who might wish harm to others. All I ask of you is compassion, the caring touch of your hands. It is for you that I will unselfishly give my life and spend my nights unrested. Although our days together may be marked by the passing of the seasons, know that each day at your side is my reward.

My days are measured by the coming and going of your footsteps. I anticipate them at every opening of the door. You are the voice of caring when I am ill, the voice of authority when I've done wrong.

Do not chastise me unduly for I am your right arm, the sword at your side. I attempt to do only what you bid of me. I seek only to please you and remain in your favor.

Together you and I shall experience a bond only others like us will understand. When outsiders see us together their envy will be measured by their disdain.

I will quietly listen to you and pass no judgment, nor will your spoken words be repeated. I will remain ever silent, ever vigilant, ever loyal. And when our time together is done and you move on in the world, re-

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

member me with kind thoughts and tales, for a time we were unbeatable, nothing passed among us undetected.

If we should meet again on another street I will gladly take up your fight, I am a Police Working Dog and together we are guardians of the night.

HONORING GEORGE ROACH ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION'S 2000 COMPUTERWORLD PERMANENT RESEARCH COLLECTION

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate Mr. George Roach, a constituent and neighbor from Long Island, who as a system specialist with the Consolidated Edison Company has recently been honored by Computerworld Smithsonian Program (CWSP). Each year the CWSP identifies and honors individuals and organizations whose vision in the use of Information Technology produces a positive social, economic or educational change. The CWSP is considered one of the most prestigious awards program in the information technology industry. As a 2000 laureate, Mr. Roach's pioneering work was inducted into the Smithsonian Institution's 2000 Computerworld Permanent Research Collection.

Mr. Roach and his team of Customer Operations, Information Resources and Treasury Operations employees were instrumental in implementing Con Edison's use of the Intell-A-Check Program. This new development allows customers to choose the method of billing that is most appropriate for them, whether is be writing a traditional check, using a telephone key pad or authorizing payment over the Internet. Customers utilized these various electronic payment applications over 1.85 million times in the year 1999 alone. Through his innovation, Mr. Roach has significantly cut costs and improved customer satisfaction.

Mr. Roach's work was recognized by Bill Gates, a leading pioneer in the technology field. When Roach's efforts came to the attention of the prominent Chairman and CEO of Microsoft Corporation, he nominated Roach for inclusion in the Smithsonian Institution's Permanent Research Collection. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join the Computerworld Smithsonian Program in commending Mr. Roach for his groundbreaking work in the field of information technology. On behalf of the people of Long Island, I would like to thank Mr. Roach for the prestige and high level of technology his work has brought to our area of New York.

IN HONOR OF MR. MARK SMITH, RECIPIENT OF THIS YEAR'S CIRCOLO ITALIANO CLUB OF BAYONNE MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Mark Smith of Bayonne, New Jersey, for being named this year's "Man of the Year" by the Circolo Italiano Club of Bayonne.

Starting out in the Bayonne Police Department's Patrol Division in 1983, Mr. Smith's keen abilities and dedication to his career helped him to move quickly through the ranks. In 1985, Mr. Smith was promoted to detective of the Narcotics Squad; and, by 1988, he was assigned to the City of Bayonne Department of Public Safety's Detective Bureau.

Mr. Smith's remarkable and impressive career on the police force has earned him numerous service and valor awards. He has received more than forty Excellent Police Service Awards and more than twenty departmental commendations, as well as the Hudson County American Legion Police Officer of the Year Award in 1992; the City of Bayonne Police Department Valor Award in 1991; the New Jersey State PBA Valor Award in 1991; and the Hudson County 200 Club Valor Award in 1991, and again in 1999.

In addition to his work for the police force, Mr. Smith has been active in a variety of community service organizations. He has served on the board of the Chandelier Golf Charity Committee and the Hudson County ARC, and has dedicated his time as a member of the Bayonne Hospital Citywide Health Steering Committee, the Bayonne Elks Club, the Bayonne Chapter of UNICO, and the Bayonne Family Y.M.C.A.

For his dedication and service to the citizens of Bayonne, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Mark Smith on being named this year's Circolo Italiano Club's Man of the Year.

HONORING DEACON WALTER O. HEATH

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Deacon Walter O. Heath. I am very proud to join with the Second Baptist Church of Modesto, in my district in California's magnificent Central Valley, in honoring Deacon Heath for his many years of unselfish dedication to the church and its members.

Walter was born in Mill Flat, Louisiana, on March 8, 1913 and moved to California in 1944. He joined the Second Baptist Church in 1945, later becoming a deacon. He served on the committee to bring the Reverend Howard Clark to the church as pastor and worked to secure the land to build the new church at

California and Marshall Avenues in Modesto. Additionally, Deacon Heath helped revive the Silver Square Lodge No. 66 in 1950. For the past 55 years, Deacon Heath has provided financial support, time, energy and spirit to the Second Baptist Church family.

He continues to help members of the Church who are in distress by giving them a second chance in life. He is one of the longest serving chairmen of the Second Baptist Church Deacon Board. In honor of his longstanding commitment to God and his community, I would like to join with Second Baptist Church in declaring April 8, 2000, Walter O. Heath Appreciation Day.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to rise and join me in honoring the remarkable and tireless contributions of Walter O. Heath.

HONORING DICKRAN KOUYMIJIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Dickran Kouymjian for being named "Man of the Year" by the Armenian National Committee of Central California. The Armenian National Committee is a grassroots organization, which deals with any and all concerns of both Armenian nationals and Armenian-Americans.

Dr. Kouymjian was selected to be "Man of the Year" as a result of his many outstanding accomplishments. Kouymjian earned a B.A. in European History from the University of Madison, Wisconsin. He earned an M.A. in Arab Studies from the American University of Beirut, and a Ph.D. in Armenian Studies from Columbia University. In 1977, Dr. Kouymjian was invited to Fresno from Paris, to establish a new program in Armenian Studies at the California State University, Fresno. There he reorganized the Armenian Studies Organization and founded the Center for Armenian Studies as well as the Armenian student newspaper, Hye Sharzhoom.

Since 1988, he has served as the first incumbent of the Haig & Isabel Berberian Endowed Chair of Armenian Studies at Fresno State. Dr. Kouymjian has taught a wide range of subjects: Armenian, Islamic, Classical, and Byzantine history and art, Western and Oriental humanities, film, genocide and Saroyan studies. He also serves on the editorial boards of five publications in Armenian studies and the Board of Scholars of the Zoryan Institute, NAASR, and the Armenian Film Foundation.

Dr. Kouymjian has been awarded a Fulbright Senior Lectureship by the United States government to teach in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature at Yerevan State University in Armenia. Along with his many other accomplishments, he has been given the highest honor bestowed by the Armenian church to scholars and writers, the St. Sahag and St. Mesrob medal, by Catholicos Karekin I.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Dr. Dickran Kouymjian for being named "Man of the Year" by the Armenian National Com-

mittee of Central California. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Dickran Kouymjian many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO ESTHER K. SHAPIRO

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Esther K. Shapiro who will be awarded the Anti-Defamation Lifetime Achievement Award on April 4, 2000. This is indeed a high honor.

Esther Shapiro has devoted her life to social justice and civil rights. Her passion for human rights is longstanding. It began in the 1940's when Esther and her late husband, Harold, were evicted for hosting an African-American in their government-owned housing.

In the 1960's, she was drawn to the civil rights activities in the Deep South, and was part of the Michigan Friends of the South, an organization that courageously supported the efforts of Martin Luther King, Jr., the Freedom Marchers.

In her hometown, Detroit, Esther devoted her effort to win equal opportunities in housing, labor and politics for African-Americans. She was the first director of Detroit's Consumer Affairs Department where she worked to protect all consumers from abuse and scams.

Although recently retired, Esther Shapiro remains an activist as a consumer consultant to non-profit, government and business organizations, and currently serves as advisor on consumer affairs to Councilwoman Maryann Mahaffey, President Pro-Tem of the Detroit City Council.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this remarkable woman, Esther K. Shapiro, for her passion for human rights. I wish her good health and happiness as she continues to make this world a better place for all.

CONGRATULATING THE STEEL-HIGH ROLLERS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Steel-High Rollers Boys' Basketball Team of Steelton, Pa., on winning the PIAA Class AAA State Championship. This is not the first time for these talented young men. They also celebrated victories upon winning at the state championship in 1998 and in 1992.

Starters Walt Chavis, Tanel Woodward, Kurt Cheatham, Joe Zimmerman and Scott Attivo play important roles on the Rollers. But it is all the players on the team who deserve the credit for this victory. These young men have sweated through hours upon hours of warm-ups, drills and scrimmages to become the great team they are today.

Coach Rick Binder is to be commended on training and shaping these young men into a formidable team. In just three seasons, Coach Binder has guided the Steel-High-Rollers to three District 3 AAA championships and two PIAA-AAA championships.

I must also recognize the communities of Steelton and Highspire for the support they have given to their hometown team. When communities join together in a unifying spirit, the sky is truly the limit. It is self-evident the amount of pride and support these towns show, not only to this winning team, but to their school and all of its fine students.

The Steel-Rollers deserve much praise for their victory. I know the U.S. House of Representatives joins me and the communities of Highspire and Steelton in honoring these hard-working and talented young men. Congratulations and continued success.

JEWISH WOMEN'S ARCHIVE MAKING VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HISTORY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to represent a Congressional District that is home to an important cultural institution known as the Jewish Women's Archive. The organization, which is located in the town of Brookline, Massachusetts, was established in 1995 to record and publicize the remarkably rich history of Jewish women in North America. Among JWA's key projects are a "virtual archive" that provides an on-line directory of source materials that are available on Jewish women in libraries and other facilities in the United States and Canada, and its Oral History Project, which is focused on the life stories of twentieth century Jewish women.

Another important JWA initiative, which coincides annually with Women's History Month in March, is the "Women of Valor" program, an educational and outreach project aimed at helping the Jewish community and, indeed, people of all faiths in North America, to develop a better understanding of the accomplishments of Jewish women. Each year, JWA, in collaboration with Ma'ayan: The Women's History Project in New York, selects three Jewish women who have made notable contributions to our history, creates posters and other educational material providing details about their lives, and then disseminates the materials to more than 8,000 schools, libraries and other interested institutions. Past honorees have included Hadassah founder Henrietta Szold, trade union leader and social welfare activist Rose Schneiderman and poet Emma Lazarus. This year's Women of Valor are former Congresswoman Bella Abzug, anthropologist Barbara Myerhoff and Canadian track and field Olympian Bobbie Rosenfeld.

I would add that, as part of Women's History Month, Joyce Antler—JWA Visiting Director of Research—made a presentation on March 22 before the President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in American History. Her testimony, which touched on many